

# Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

For the Week of October 19, 2008

Nothing so pleases God in connection with our prayer as our praise, and nothing so blesses the man who prays as the praise which he offers. I got a great blessing once in China in this connection. I had received bad and sad news from home, and deep shadows had covered my soul. I prayed, but the darkness did not vanish. I summoned myself to endure, but the darkness only deepened. Just then I went to an inland station and saw on the wall of the mission home these words: "Try Thanksgiving." I did, and in a moment every shadow was gone, not to return. Yes, the Psalmist was right, "It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord."—Henry W. Frost

## *The Life of Prayer*

### **The Water Trough**

David Williamson

One of the places we lived when I was growing up was a retired farm. The barn and corral was still there and in good shape, but no one farmed the land. While we lived there, the man who owned the land kept a couple of horses there. He made arrangements with my dad to water and feed the horses every morning. Many mornings I would go out and help my dad. We would turn on the water and fill the water trough and put feed out for the horses. Even though the trough was very large we had to refill it every day. The horses drank a lot of water, dad explained that it was very important for the horses to have water every day, they would die without water. The water trough had some small leaks and between the horses drinking and the leaks, we always had to add a lot of water to top it off. In the winter time it was even harder work because we had to break the ice from the surface and pull it out before we could fill the trough. This required diligence to go out every morning and some days it was hard work, especially when we had to chip through several inches of ice.

Last week we study for a moment, a key to successful faith in prayer; not doubting in our heart. Jesus opened the possibility for great power and success in prayer, the requirement being faith. He also warned that doubt was the enemy of faith and could destroy our power and limit our success.

***So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God. For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them. Mark 11:22-24 (NKJV)***

We also reviewed a key verse from Proverbs that is a guide to protecting our heart from things like doubt. There is listed within these few verses a long list of things to do to protect our heart and provide for success in life and prayer. The focus of this list is what we do with the Word of God. How we handle and use the Word of God is a key to the abundant life Jesus promised.

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***My son, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; Keep them in the midst of your heart; For they are life to those who find them, And health to all their flesh. Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life. Put away from you a deceitful mouth, And put perverse lips far from you. Let your eyes look straight ahead, And your eyelids look right before you. Ponder the path of your feet, And let all your ways be established. Do not turn to the right or the left; Remove your foot from evil.*** Proverbs 4:20-27 (NKJV)

Our heart is a little like the water trough that dad and I filled for the horses and the water we filled it with is like the Word of God. Like that water trough we must fill our heart every day. We cannot fill our heart on Sundays and then expect to make it through the week. We will die before the end of the week, not physically like the horses would have, but spiritually. We must have a daily infilling because we consume the Word, our heart leaks, and the Word in our heart can be frozen and made ineffective.

The Word of God is an essential ingredient to life. Just as the water we required for the horses we feed, so we must feed on God's Word. Every day we must refill our heart. We consume the Word in our life, our ministry and in prayer. The horses would drink the water they needed for today. Then tomorrow they would once again drink the water they needed for the day. We must emulate their actions; every day we must drink deeply of the Word of God and fill our heart. If we are to have success in life and prayer this must be a daily activity, filling our hearts with His Word.

***But Jesus answered him, saying, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.' "*** Luke 4:4 (NKJV)

***Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious.*** 1 Peter 2:1-3 (NKJV)

We leak. I wish it was not so, and it should not be so, but that is a fact, we leak. The leak coming out of our heart is the Word of God. It is not the Word that we use for life, but the leakage of life. The world and its concerns cause people to leak the Word. We are constantly and powerfully bombarded with the world and its sin, concerns, and problems. These are like bullets piercing our heart and causing us to leak. We are called to live in the world, not of the world. Unfortunately we do not live every day with our armor in place. We let down our guard and get pierced by the issues of life and death. The fiery darts of the wicked one and the attack of the evil day, cause us to leak. So once again day-by-day we must refill our heart with the Word of God.

***For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having girded your***

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***waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints-- Ephes. 6:12-18 (NKJV)***

In spiritual things it is sometimes winter even in the summer. In the winter time when dad and I feed the horses there were times the water would freeze and although the water line was near the top the horses could not drink. The icy cap would keep them from the water. We run into this same situation with the Word of God in our heart. Empty of the Word or even if our heart is full we can be constrained from enjoying the benefit of the Word.

What causes this icy cap to our heart? Cold weather froze the water creating an icy cap, in spiritual matters things like fear, anger, and unforgiveness create an icy cap. Our attitude makes a difference. The man who tries to have faith by filling his heart with the Word of God, but is overwhelmed by fear has an icy cap over his heart. The Word of God can melt this icy cap, but until it does this man will be constrained in his faith. Anger blocks the flow of faith. Anger is a simmering fire and rage is a raging fire, but both, just like the icy cap on the trough, block the flow of faith. Unforgiveness freezes faith, stopping the hand of God. It also places a cap on faith and the work of the Word of God in our heart. Every day dad and I would have to chip away the ice that blocked the water from the horses. In this way we must chip away at fear, anger, and unforgiveness. We must not allow them to have a place in our heart.

***So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God. For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them. "And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses. But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses."*** Mark 11:22-26 (NKJV)

Faith in prayer comes from a daily battle to fill and keep our heart. We must refill our heart everyday with the Word of God. We consume far too much of the world with daily living to be able to get by for several days without constant refilling. While we live in the world we will need to refill our heart even more with the Word of God because we leak. This also makes it imperative that we put on and use the armor of God. We can and must limit the leakage so we can remain full. We must chip away fear, anger, and unforgiveness when they come. Better yet is not to let them come at all. Repudiate any entrance to fear. Refuse a place for anger. Forgive so unforgiveness will have no place in your heart.

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*Let us Pray!*

## **A Call for Prayer**

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem and Israel.

Pray with Pastor Daniel in Nepal. Here are several prayer matters:

1. Our Word to World School is beginning from Nov 5th to next Oct 2009. This school is designed to produce evangelists and missionaries for the harvest field; and after completion of teaching course students will spend time in mission field. We will have 15 students for this second group. The first group has been effective winning many souls and planting a fellowship. A student costs Nrs. 2100 (\$30) a month.
2. We are beginning 45 days School of Ministry a Leadership Training School for the Pastors, Leaders, Fellowship Leaders and Young Emerging Leaders, November, 2009.
3. 19-13th Oct. International Limbu Christian Fellowship, in Itahary, east Nepal.
4. 27-30th Oct, New Life Youth Camp in Damak, east Nepal.
5. 2-4th Nov. Fasting prayer Conference in Dharan, east Nepal.
6. 25-27th November New Life Leadership Conference, (Place is not yet conformed)
7. 16-18th December, New Life Convention, east Nepal.
8. I am going on FM Radio, once in a week then twice in a week, starting in November, program will be 'This is your day' for 30 minutes. Pray for the needs to air the program will cost \$80 a month for recording, editing, music and play. That cost will help for follow up too.
9. We need favor and protection from God and prayer support. There are many problems in Nepal, with the removal of the king people are longing to return to their ethnic groups, others are fighting this move. Some Hindu extremist organizations are extorting money from groups, especially churches and pastors. There have even been some bombings. Christian pastors and leaders are exposed publicly, at crusades, evangelistic outreaches and meetings so they are easily pointed out, but now these anti-government groups are extorting, kidnapping and even killing them. Many have gone under ground; it is more severe than during Maoist War time. In east Nepal it is severe and now it begins in Kathmandu. Pray for divine protection to Christians. This kind of news is not flashed about because of the safety of the entire Christian community; the church does not approach the media or authorities because government can't guarantee safety.
10. I am traveling lot, pray for my safety. Thank you for your prayers. I appreciate your prayers and all kind of support to enhance the gospel in this country and around, May God bless you!  
Daniel

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## Basic Prayer Focus

**Pray for Israel and the Peace of Jerusalem**

**Pray for the reaching of Souls from Every Nation**

**Pray for the government of your country** (so we can live peaceably and the Gospel can be preached)

**Pray for your home Church**

## Continuing Faithful in Prayer

Pray for these ministers and ministries. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide and direct your prayers.

**Joyce Abrahamson** – Head of school in Brazil

**John Coon** – Ministry in Europe and the USA

**Churches in Belarus** – Growing number of churches in Belarus

**Churches in Lithuania** – Growing number of churches in Lithuania

**DK Limbu Daniel** – Pastor of a church in Nepal and church planting among Nepalese people

**Marianne and David Dean** – Missionaries on college campuses in East Asia

**Jacek Gromadzki** – Pastor of a church in Kolobrzeg, Poland

**Marek Kaminski** – Pastor of church in Kaszalin, Poland, leader in Polish churches, and co-founder and leader of BBB Conference

**Bernd and Heike Pastor** – Ministry in Germany

**Mark Spencer** – Pastor of church in Longmont, Colorado, worldwide ministry, and co-founder and leader of BBB Conference

**Patty Spencer** – Pastor in Longmont, Colorado, worship leader, and artist with a great new CD

**William Williamson** – Pastor of church in Holly, Colorado

**Charles and Janice Wilson** – Pastors in Wyola, Montana

## Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

*Voice of Thanksgiving* is published in a weekly version in English. *Voice of Thanksgiving* is also published monthly in German and Polish.

- ✓ For an archive of past articles, short notes and studies on prayer, and other information go to [www.voiceofthanksgiving.com](http://www.voiceofthanksgiving.com)
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